

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A heavy duty pneumatic tire comprising a carcass layer, an innerliner layer and an inner face protection layer arranged therebetween, characterized in that the inner face protection layer is comprised of a rubber layer A adjacent to the innerliner layer and a rubber layer B adjacent to the carcass layer, and each rubber composition of the carcass layer and the rubber layer B is compounded with a rubber component, sulfur and a cobalt compound of an organic acid, and an amount of sulfur compounded satisfies the following equations (I) and (II):

$$S_A < S_B \leq S_C \quad \cdots \cdots (I)$$

$$2 \leq S_A \leq 2.5 \quad \cdots \cdots (II)$$

(wherein  $S_A$ ,  $S_B$  and  $S_C$  are an amount of sulfur compounded in the rubber composition constituting the rubber layer A, rubber layer B and the carcass layer, respectively, based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component) and an elongation at break of the rubber composition constituting the rubber layer A is ~~1.00-1.45~~1.02-1.45 times an elongation at break of the rubber composition constituting the rubber layer B.

2. (original): A heavy duty pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein  $S_B$  is not less than 4.

3. (canceled).

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**  
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4. (previously presented): A heavy duty pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein the rubber component in each of the rubber layer A, rubber layer B and carcass layer is natural rubber or a rubber blend containing not less than 70% by mass of natural rubber.

5. (canceled).

6. (new): A heavy duty pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein the elongation at break of the rubber composition constituting the rubber layer A is 1.10-1.25 times the elongation at break of the rubber composition constituting the rubber layer B.